

Remarks

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 11-12, and 14-21 have been amended. Claims 1-21 are now in the case.

I. Drawings

Drawings marked up in red for three sheets of drawings are enclosed, including a sheet for Figs. 14A & 14B, a sheet for Fig. 15A & 15B, and a sheet for Figs. 8A and 8B. Three corrected formal drawing sheets are also enclosed corresponding to the same figures.

II. Objections to the Specification

The specification has been amended in accordance with the examiner's suggestions.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Original claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 15-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The applicant has amended various claims and respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 are obviated.

IV. Amended Claim 1 and dependents

Originally filed claim 6 was previously indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The limitations of originally filed claims 4, 5, and 6 have been incorporated into amended claim 1. Thus, amended claim 1 includes the combination of

limitations that were previously indicated to be allowable. Amended claim 1 is submitted to be allowable.

Claims 2-6 and 8-10 are dependent on amended claim 1 and are submitted to be allowable for at least that reason.

V. Amended claim 7

Originally filed claim 7 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 7 has been appropriately rewritten and is submitted to be allowable.

VI. Amended Claim 11

Claim 11 has been amended to be an independent claim and to more clearly define the present invention in one or more embodiments. Claim 11 was previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Schaub and Cassady. That rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 11 specifies:

11. An apparatus comprising:
a first knife;
a second knife;
wherein the first knife includes a first attachment device;
wherein the second knife includes a second attachment device;
wherein the first attachment device and the second attachment device can be attached to each other to attach the first knife to the second knife;
wherein the first attachment device and the second attachment device can be detached from each other to detach the first knife from the second knife;
wherein the second attachment device can be inserted into the first attachment device, when the first knife is place at an angle with respect to the second knife, and
wherein the first knife can be rotated with respect to the second knife to cause the first and second knife to snap together in a state of alignment with respect to each other.

In the present application, in one or more embodiments, a protrusion of a knife 100 can be inserted into an opening of a knife 10, while the knife 100 is at an angle with respect to the knife

10. (Present application, Figs. 9A-9D; pg. 14, third paragraph, first sentence; pgs. 14-15). In addition, the knife 100 can be rotated with respect to the knife 10, to cause the knives to snap together in a state of alignment with respect to each other. (Id.)

Schaub discloses the connection of various modules (Schaub, col. 4, Ins. 49-65). In Schaub, the modules are connected by having a first knife or module parallel to a second knife or module and sliding a connecting element, such as 11, of the first knife, into a recess, such as 8, of the second knife. (Schaub, col. 2, Ins. 7-14). Schaub does not disclose inserting a first attachment device of a first knife into a second attachment device of a second knife when the first knife is at an angle with respect to the second knife. Schaub does not disclose rotating the first knife with respect to the second knife to cause the first and second knives to snap together in a state of alignment with respect to each other.

Cassady discloses inserting a T-head protrusion 15 into a circular opening 16 in order to attach a scissor blade 11 to scissor blade 10. (Cassady, Figs. 1-4). However, Cassady does not disclose rotating the blade 11 with respect to the blade 10 to cause the blade 11 and blade 10 to snap together in a state of alignment. I.e. in Cassady, the blades 11 and 10 are going to rotate with respect to each other in order for the scissors to work properly and there is no indication that they are snapped into a state of alignment with respect to each other.

Claim 11 is respectfully submitted to be allowable.

VII. Amended Claim 12 and dependents

Originally filed claim 12 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 12 has been appropriately rewritten and is submitted to be allowable. Claim 13 is dependent on claim 12 and is submitted to be allowable for at least that reason.

VIII. Amended Claim 14 and dependents

Originally filed claim 19 was previously indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include limitations of the base claim and intervening claims and if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The limitations of originally filed claims 17, 18, and 19 (excepting original claim 15) have been incorporated into amended claim 14. Thus, amended claim 14 includes the combination of limitations that were previously indicated to be allowable, with the exception of original claim 15. Amended claim 14 is submitted to be allowable.

Claims 15-19, and 21 are dependent on amended claim 14 and are submitted to be allowable for at least that reason.

IX. Amended Claim 20 and dependents

Other than the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, the examiner did not specifically refer to claim 20. Claim 20 has been amended to be an independent claim and to include the limitations of original claims 17 and 14 (excepting original claim 15) and is submitted to be allowable.

X. Conclusion

Claims 1-21 are respectfully submitted to be in a condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. A credit card payment form for \$300.00 for three independent claims over three is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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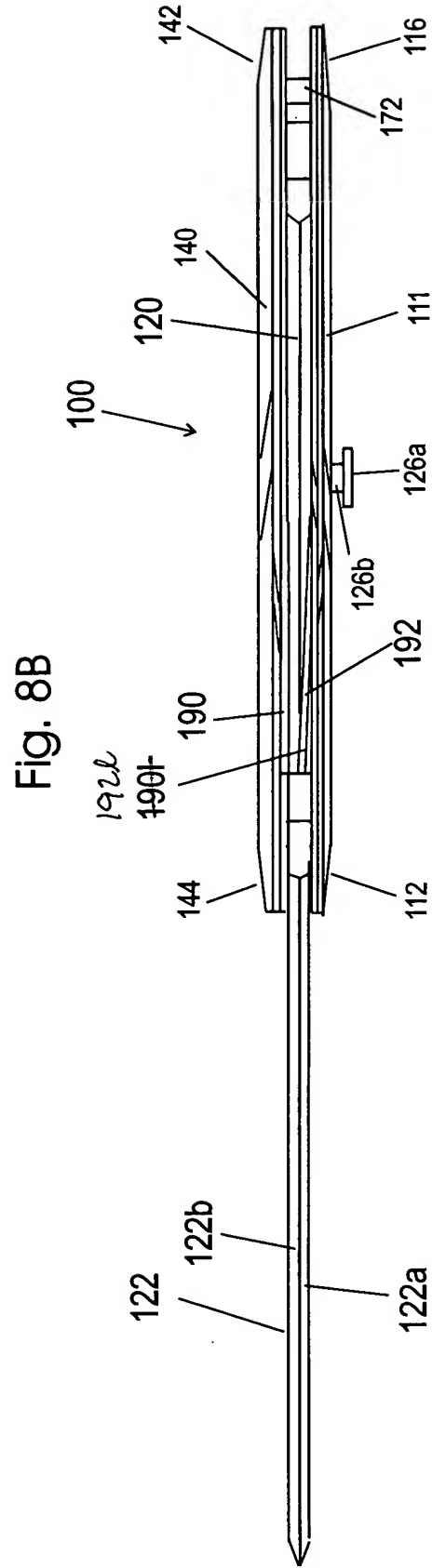
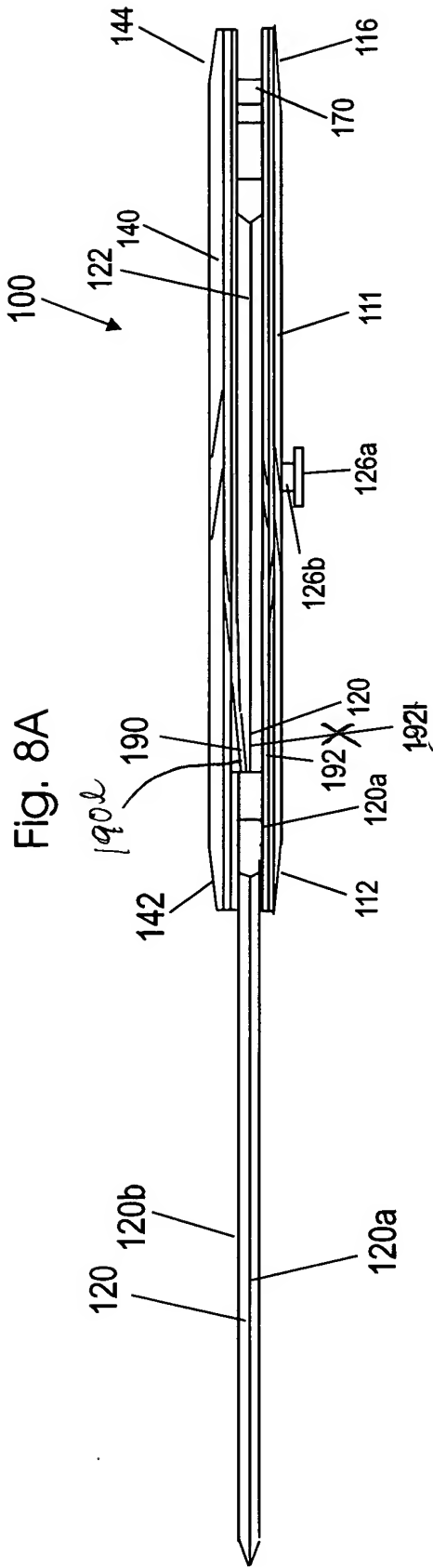
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Fig. 14A

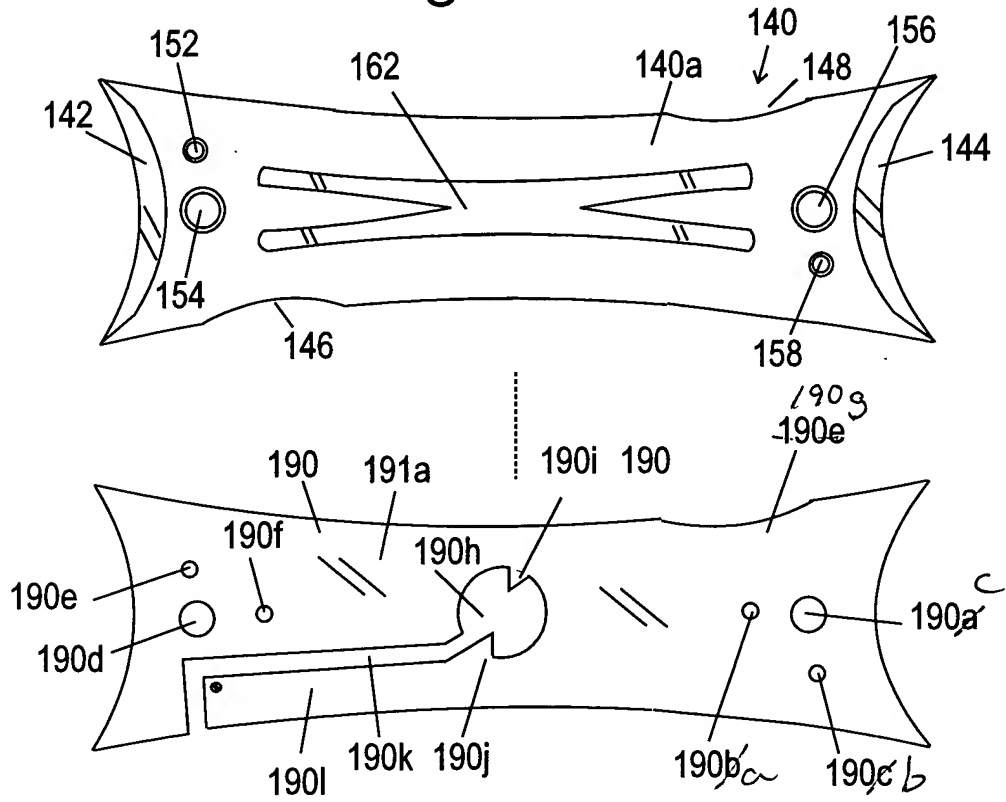
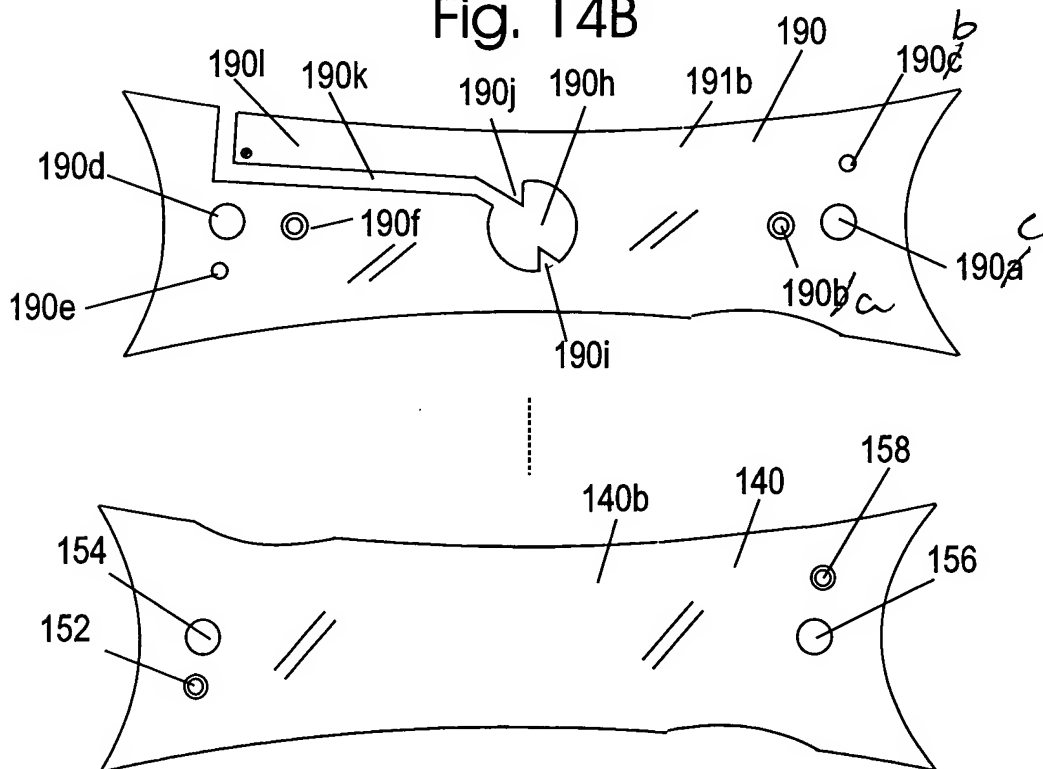


Fig. 14B



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Fig. 15A

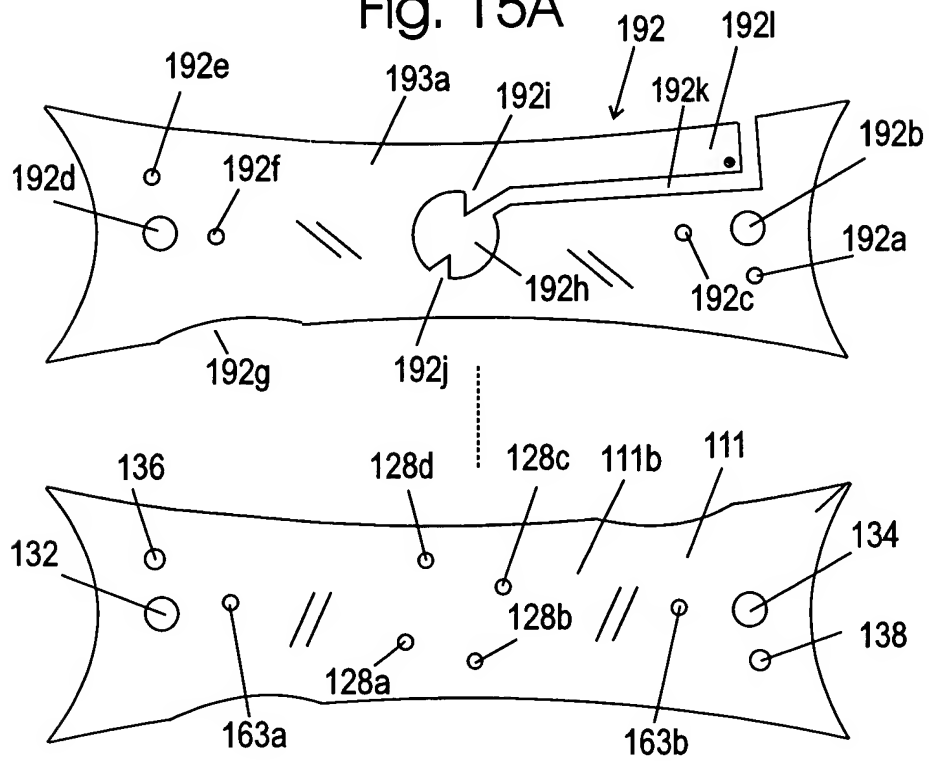


Fig. 15B

